

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, in light of the present amendments and following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 23-26 are pending. Claims 23-26 are amended by the present amendment. It is respectfully submitted that no new matter is added by this amendment, as support for the amendments may be found at least at page 112, lines 9-18 and Figure 28(c).

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 23-26 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Yamagishi et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,535,008, hereinafter “Yamagishi”) in view of Hosono (U.S. Patent No. 5,856,930).

With regard to the rejection of Claim 23 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Yamagishi in view of Hosono, that rejection is respectfully traversed.

Amended Claim 23 recites an information recording medium for recording MPEG-encoded information having groups-of-pictures each containing I-picture information, comprising:

- a management area configured to record management information; and
- an object area configured to record a data object in unit of a stream block containing data packets,
 - wherein the data packets contained in said stream block correspond to one or more said groups-of-pictures,
 - a last portion of said stream block or a last portion of a data area in said stream block is configured to have a padding area for a padding packet,
 - said MPEG-encoded information is recorded in a unit of the data packet to which the I-picture information is appended, said I-picture information including playback timestamp information, and
 - said management area includes a time relation table which includes playback timestamp information and address information relating to I-pictures of the MPEG-encoded information.*** (Emphasis added).

The Office Action dated November 4, 2004 cited Figure 7E of Yamagishi as describing “management data.”¹ Assuming *arguendo* that the I-frame access data shown in Figure 7E of Yamagishi is “management data,” there is no teaching or suggestion in Yamagishi that this I-frame access data includes a “time relation table.” Figures 8A and 8B of Yamagishi provide detail of the I-frame access data shown in Figure 7E of Yamagishi, and do not include such a “time relation table.”² Thus, Yamagishi does not teach or suggest “said management area includes a time relation table which includes playback timestamp information and address information relating to I-pictures of the MPEG-encoded information,” as recited in amended Claim 23. Moreover, it is respectfully submitted that Hosono does not teach or suggest this element either. Accordingly, as the cited references do not teach or suggest each and every element of Claim 23, Claim 23 is patentable over the cited references.

As Claims 24-26 recite similar features to Claim 23, it is further respectfully submitted that Claims 24-26 also patentably define over Yamagishi in view of Hosono.

¹See Office Action dated November 4, 2004, page 2, lines 28-29.

²See Yamagishi, column 18, lines 46-65.

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Consequently, in view of the foregoing discussion and present amendment, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. An early and favorable action is therefore respectfully requested.

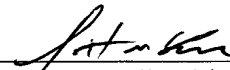
Respectfully submitted,

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